[31st January 1929

Construction of the Moir causeway at Uttukottai.

*1230 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Moir causeway at Uttukottai was recently constructed by the Chingleput District Board at a cost of Rs. 37,700;

(b) whether the Government are aware that considerable damage has been caused to the causeway on account of some rains on the 12th November 1928;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints from the people in and near Uttukottai, that the damage has been caused to the causeway on account of the flimsy nature of the work by the contractor and on account of the absence of effective supervision and control over the contractor by the District Board and the Engineering department;

(d) whether patch works are being done to repair the damage; and

(e) whether, in view of the importance of the matter, the Government would direct the District Board to have the causeway examined by independent experts and have the repairs done in accordance with their advice?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government understand that the floods of November 1928 caused damage to the causeway to the extent of Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 2,000.

(c) No.

(d) The District Board has carried out the repairs immediately necessary to restore traffic.

(e) The Government are inquiring into the nature of the damage and the repairs necessary.

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask the hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that part of the allotment made for this causeway proper was utilized for the construction of ornamental archways?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am not aware, Sir."

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"Will the hon. Minister get that information, Sir?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Yes, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN:—"May I ask the hon. Minister whether he made thorough enquiries and satisfied himself that all the money allotted for this purpose was spent on it?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"When a local body says that they spent the amount, we have to take it for granted that it has been spent."

Levy of toll-gate fees by the Madura District Board.

*1231 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether toll-gate fees are collected by all the district boards at a uniform rate and if so, what is the rate for motor-cars;